

The ANCIENT
AMITY
RESTOR'D;
OR,
France the Best Friend.

CONTAINING
An Historical Account of the
Fair and Friendly Dealings of
the *French* towards the *English*,
for these 600 Years past.
With Useful and Seasonable
REFLECTIONS.

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Printed for A. Baldwin, near the Oxford-
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WHEN I consider certain Passages and Incidents which are like to Adorn the History of these Noble Times, I cannot but think our Memories are as much touch'd as our Understandings. We read in the Publick Papers, on the Approach of Peace, that the *Ancient Amity between France and England, is to be Restor'd*. That Honest and Ingenious Writer, Mr. *Abel Roper*, has flatter'd us with so agreeable a Prospect. In some Companies, Healths are drunk to our *Best Ally*: And if you ask whether the *Dutch* are meant, you are laugh'd at as a Fool. I, who had always look'd upon the *French* King as a Bitter Enemy to *Britain*, was very much surpriz'd at all these Things. I had never heard in my Life that the *French* were our Friends till the Two Happy Reigns of King *Charles* the Second and his Brother King *James*. I really thought They and We had

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been

been Enemies ever since the *First* Conquest in 1066, and that we shou'd still be their Enemies if we wou'd prevent a *Second*: The Knight of St. George being a much more Dangerous Pretender, in my Mind, than ever was *William* the *Bastard*. I did not think but that we might give over Beating them, for Reasons of State; but cou'd not comprehend what Reason cou'd induce us to love them, to be fond of them, to cry 'em up as the only Men of Honour upon Earth; and to be sorry all at once that there shou'd have happen'd some small Misunderstandings between Us for these Three or Four and Twenty Years past. For my Part, I will never make War with *Lewis* the XIVth my self: And when the Time comes that we must be all Friends with him, I shall be as Peaceable a Neighbour as any he has. But tho' I don't Fight with him, I confess I shall never love him; and must always believe, that the less we have to do with the *French*, the better: For 'tis certain they never did us any Good since they were a Nation.

If I were dispos'd to go so far back as the Times of the *Britains* and *Saxons*, I should find that this Island never suffer'd more Damage by any of her Neighbours than by the *French*. The first Invasion that ever was made here, was from *France*; *Julius Caesar* brought his Army from thence to subjugate the poor Islanders to the *Roman* Yoke. This seeming to be a little too antique for Us, we shall pass over the Dark Reigns of the *Roman* Emperors in *Britain*, of the Heptarchy, the *Saxon* and *Danish* Kings in this Island; and see how lovingly

vingly we have liv'd together since we were so mad as to submit to the *Norman*. And the first War that Prince was engag'd in after he had acquir'd a settled Possession of the Kingdom, was against the King of *France*: Who, says *Mr. Echard*, renew'd the *Ancient Contest*, and *Invaded his Dominions in Normandy*? So that our Friendship with *France*, as old as it is, has met with some Interruptions; and we find that 700 Years ago our King had an Ancient Contest with him; which, we shall see, has lasted ever since, and will doubtless last to the World's End. In the Dispute between *William Rufus* and his Brother *Robert*, the King of *France* was always ready to assist the latter, and embroil the King of *England*. *Robert* going into the *Holy-Land* in the first *Croisade*, made over his *Dutchy of Normandy* to his Brother *William Rufus*, who demanded the *French Vexin* of King *Philip* of *France*, and the Refusal of it produc'd a War between the Two Friendly Nations; which after many Losses on both Sides, ended, says my Author, in a firm Peace.

I desire the Reader to observe, that a Firm Peace with *France* has never been of long Duration: For this lasted no longer than the Life of *Philip*, the King who made it. His Son *Lewis*, immediately upon his Death, espousing the Interest of a Pretender to the King of *England's* Dominions, *William* Son of Duke *Robert*; to which end he invaded *Normandy*, and ravag'd the Country in a most terrible Manner: but *K. Henry* the 1st giving him Battel, Routed him, took his Standard, and hung up that old solitary Rag in Triumph a

Roan. This War lasted Four Years, and was finish'd by the Mediation of the Pope, who came in Person to meet the King in *Normandy* on that Errand. But Eight Years afterward, *Lewis* the ——— reviv'd the War in Favour of the Pretender; who being kill'd at a Siege, it put an End to his Pretences and the War for the present. King *Stephen*, who after the Death of *Henry* usurp'd the Crown, which descended by Inheritance to *Maud* the Empress, kept fair with the King of *France*, who also maintain'd a Friendly Correspondence with him, being afraid of *Henry* Son of *Maud*, by the Duke of *Anjou*; who leaving him that Dutchy and *Normandy*, which he possess'd himself of in right of his Wife; the Young Prince, by marrying *Lewis's* Repudiated Wife, obtain'd the Provinces of *Guienne*, and *Poitou*; by which means he came to the Possession of *Normandy*, *Anjou*, *Mayne*, *Touraine*, *Guienne*, and *Poitou*, before he succeeded to the Crown of *England* by the Death of *Stephen*, which he did in the Year 1154. Eighty Eight Years after the *Norman* Invasion. We shall now find the Ancient Amity between the Two Kingdoms flourish amain. King *Henry* the II^d being Lord of such spacious Provinces in *France*; the Kings of that Country took hold of all Occasions to shew what a Kindness they had for the Kings of *England*, and how safe they thought themselves in having such powerful Neighbours; Tho' this King did Homage to *Lewis* for the Territories subject to it in *France*, yet Six Years afterwards *Lewis* commenc'd a War, which like the Former was made up by the Pope

Pope himself. This so highly oblig'd the Two Kings, that they both walk'd on Foot by his Horse's Side, and perform'd the Place of Yeoman of the Stirrup. But no sooner was King *Henry* involv'd in the Troubles rais'd by the proud Priest *Becket*, than *Lewis* encourag'd that Traitor in his Disobedience, taking him into his own Palace at *Sens*, and cherishing him as an happy Instrument to keep up a Tumultuous Faction, and embroil the Kingdom of *England*. King *Henry* resenting the King of *France's* protecting his Rebellious Subject, Acts of Hostility were renew'd Seven Years after the Conclusion of the last Peace. This War did not last long, *Becket* making a sort of Submission with which the Superstition of those Times oblig'd King *Henry* to be content. But Five Years after that, *Lewis* enter'd into a Confederacy with Prince *Henry*, and several *English* Noblemen, against the King of *England*, and laid Siege to *Vernoyl* in Person; but upon a Threatning Message from King *Henry* he march'd off again, meaning more, says my Author, to weaken him by Faction, than overpower him by Force. In which he has been imitated by his Successors. The King of *France* not only fomented a Rebellion in *England*, but set the *Scots* upon him also, who wasted *Northumberland* and other Counties. But King *Henry* took the *Scots* King Prisoner, drove his Rebellious Son out of *England*, and *Lewis* out of *Normandy*, which he had invaded, in less than a Year. If it be objected, that the Friendship between the *French* and *Saxons* might have been interrupted by the coming in of the *Normans*, it must

must be remember'd, that when the Wars between the Two Nations commenc'd with the greatest Fury, as they did in this Reign, the Interest of *England* and her Dominions on the Continent was One, the Distinction between the Names of *Norman* and *English* was ended. The Situation of the Two Kingdoms was such, as made them Rivals for Empire; and the Amity that is in Rivalship is too well known to need any Discussion. *About these Times, as Mr. Echard writes, all Affairs between the French and English stood in an unsettled Posture: At length a Two Years Truce was concluded; after which, Earl Richard, contrary to his Father's Will, remain'd with the King of France; and such a great Intimacy grew between them, that One Table, and One Bed usually serv'd them both.* Such Friendships there have indeed been often between *England* and *France*. *Richard* was than at Variance with his Father; and whoever was like to give Disturbance to *England* was always Welcome in *France*. *Philip* their King undertook afterwards a War for *Richard* with his Father; and by the Help of *Henry's* Rebellious Subjects in *France*, forc'd that Warlike Prince, in his Old Age, to buy a Peace of him.

After *Henry's* Death, *Richard* his Successor, and *Philip* King of *France*, enter'd upon an Expedition to the *Holy-Land*; and, according to the Humour of the Times, went to *Asia*, where *Philip* left his Friend and Bedfellow to himself; and returning to *France*, took hold of that Opportunity to Instigate King *Richard's* Brother *John* to Rebel against Him and assume the Kingdoms in his Absence:
Himself,

Himself laying Siege to *Roan*, the Capital of *Normandy*, to favour that Impious and Ungrateful Design. Here is a lively Instance of *French* Friendship and *French* Honour ; and is no less than 500 Years old. When King *Richard* was taken Prisoner in *Austria*, *Philip* endeavour'd to hinder his Liberty ; and e're he was well settled in *England*, at his Return besieg'd the City of *Vernoil*, whence *Richard's* Presence only soon drove him. Of this War in 1197, the Pope himself wrote thus to the Bishop of *Beauvais*, then Prisoner to K. *Richard*, That tho' the King of France had been bound by Oath to do no Damage to the King of England's Dominions during his Pilgrimage, yet he had shamefully, against his Faith and Oath, taken his Towns, and wasted his Territories ; the Equity of whose Cause fought for him against the Arrogance and Injuries of the French King. King *Richard* indeed gain'd a glorious Victory over him, and forc'd him to Leap into a River for his Life. This War was so scandalous that the Nobility of France refus'd to join in it ; and as it was infamous in its Cause so it was in its End, as has been hinted. King *Richard* to strengthen himself against the King of France, entred into Alliances with the Emperor and the Earl of *Flanders*. How he kept them History informs us ; and that he refus'd to conclude a Peace, purely because the Emperor did not approve it, yet he had lain no Obligations on this Emperor. On the contrary, he had been detain'd by him in his Return from the Holy Land, and put to an Immense Ransom. But such was our Ancient Amity with France, that there was not a Prince in Europe whose Alliances

Alliance we did not prefer to Hers, and whose Assistance we did not engage, if by his Interest and Situation he was dispos'd to give it us. That *Flanders* has always been a Barrier to these Kingdoms, appears from the Story of these and all Times since the Conquest. While King *Richard* made but a poor Diversion in *France*, the Earl of *Flanders*, says an Old Author, made sore War against the French King for this Part, and training the same King within Straits, so that he was almost enclosed on each Side, he constrained him to agree to such Composition as pleased the same Earl to appoint. When the French are in such Streights, they presently have recourse to Treaty, which ever succeeded better with them than War; but afterwards, as my Author proceeds, the French King refused to stand to the Covenants of that Agreement. The King of *France* would have made a Peace with the King of *England*, offering him very fair Terms; but King *Richard* would not hear of Separate Measures, requiring that his Confederate the Earl of *Flanders* should also be satisfy'd and included in the Treaty, a Proof that we have always thought it for the good of *England*, to prefer the Friendship of the *Netherlands* to that of the French, and held our Treaties with them and every State so Sacred, that no Temptations could divide us from our Allies.

When King *John* came to the Throne, the First Thing he did was to confirm the League his Brother had made with the Earl of *Flanders*; and Prince *Arthur* his Nephew, who had the Hereditary Right to the Crown, immediately apply'd himself to the French King for Help

Help. *Philip* was as forward to assist him as
 he to desire it, hoping to raise such Intestine
 Troubles to King *John*, that he should not
 have Leisure to think of Foreign Affairs, or
 give him any Disturbance. The King of
France presently own'd Prince *Arthur* as King
 of *England*, and enter'd the *English* Dominions
 in *Normandy* with a powerful Army; to shew
 what a steady Friend *France* has been to all
 Pretenders to the Crown of *England*: And
 this I suppose is meant by restoring the *Ancient*
Amity; for there is nothing else in all our
 Histories from the First *William* to the Third,
 that can make us look upon them but as our
 Mortal Enemies, a Disposition born with them,
 and as much a Part of them as their Blood.
 However, to shew also what such Pretenders
 may look for from *French* Amity, we find that
 at the opening of the War, the King of *France*
 offer'd to abandon Prince *Arthur*, if King
John would give up the *Veuxin*, a Country in
 the Dutchy of *Normandy*; which a few Months
 after he did, with the City of *Evreux*, and
 the Country belonging to it: Such being the
 use *France* has always made of Pretenders to this
 Kingdom, to divide and weaken us, which
 consequently brings her an Addition of Pow-
 er. A Peace was concluded on those Terms,
 and Prince *Arthur* forc'd to be content with
 what his Unkle King *John* would give him.
 This Peace was very dishonourable to *En-*
gland, and *Holinshed* tells us, *Certes this Peace*
was displeasing to many, but namely to the Earl of
Flanders, who thereupon making no Account of
King John's Amity, concluded a Peace with King
Philip shortly afterwards.

Now we may be said to be good Friends ;
 We have bought and paid for the Friendship
 of the King of *France*. This happen'd in the
 Year 1200, and on the same Conditions per-
 haps King *John*'s Successors might have pur-
 chas'd the Amity of that Crown as long as they
 had a Foot of Land to give for it : But no
 longer than they were paying for it, no long-
 er lasted the Peace. This Treaty, so condemn'd
 for the Baseness of it, did not last Two Years ;
 for in *February* 1202, the King of *France* again
 set up Prince *Arthur*, and Invaded and Ra-
 vag'd King *John*'s Dominions on the Conti-
 nent : King *John* overthrew his Nephew *Ar-
 thur*, took him Prisoner, and not long after he
 dy'd, either by Accident or Assassination in
 the Castle of *Roan*. The Latter was rumour'd,
 and generally suspected ; which made King
John many Enemies both on the Continent
 and in *England*. The *French* King to ingra-
 tiate himself with his Party, cited King
John as his Homager, to appear and answer
 for the Death of his Nephew ; and he not ap-
 pearing, was adjudg'd to have forfeited all his
 Lands and Dominions in *France*, in less than
 Three Years after the Amity between the
 Two Kings had been concluded, to the great
 Displeasure of King *John*'s good Ally the
 Earl of *Flanders*. The Death of Prince *Ar-
 thur* was a good Handle for the *French* King to
 shew his Friendship to the *English* Nation :
 He enter'd their Countries in *France*, and took
 Towns and Castles as fast as he came before
 them : His Pretence of Revenge for the
 Prince, made him so many Friends, that King
John did not know who to trust. His best
 and

and greatest Captains revolted from him ; when he sent Ambassadors to treat of a Peace, he stood on such hard Conditions, that if King *John* had been his Prisoner he could not have demanded more ; *not doubting*, says the good old Chronicler before-mention'd, *but to have many to take Part with him in seeking Revenge of Prince Arthur's Death, he made that his chief Quarrel, swearing that he would not cease to pursue the War against King John till he had depriv'd him of his whole Kingdom.* And by these Pretences he so divided King *John's* Subjects in *Normandy*, that in a few Weeks he reduc'd that whole Dutchy, with *Roan* its Capital. He not only overcame *Poitou* and *Guyenne*, but form'd a mighty Confederacy against King *John*, of Foreign Princes, himself at their Head, to invade *England*, while the *English* Affairs abroad were in the utmost Confusion. King *John* broke his Strength entirely by abandoning the Earl of *Flanders*, and making Peace with the *French* King ; and such was the fatal Consequence of his leaving an Old try'd Friend, a Friend engag'd by Interest, as well as Treaties ; for a new False One, engag'd by Interest to be his irreconcilable Enemy. These Wars having lasted Four Years, to the great Loss and Dishonour of the *English*, a Truce was at last concluded between the Two Kings for Two Years. This Truce prov'd more Mischievous to King *John* than his Wars had done : He fell out with his Clergy, and the Pope interdicted his Kingdom. A Legate was sent to *France* to stir up King *Philip* to renew the War ; the Bigoted People were afraid of the Inter-

did, and fled into that Kingdom in great Numbers. The French King, says Holinshed, was easily persuaded to take the War in Hand against King John, of an Inward Hatred that he bore to our King; and thereupon with all Diligence made his Provision of Men, Ships, Munition and Vessel, on purpose to pass over into England. The Pride of the Priests, and their Insolence, were become intolerable; and King John attempting to humble them, drew upon Himself the Enmity of the Church, worse in those Days than even in Our's. The French King, to shew the Ancient Amity between the Two Nations, no sooner heard that our Church was in Danger, but he very amicably levies a Mighty Army to conquer us, and rescue her. The Preparations of King Philip for this Enterprize were greater than ever had been known in France. The Priests of England were his Good Friends; and he will Assist them, tho' he hazards every Thing. But that would not do the Pope's Business; and therefore his Legate was sent to England, where King John, distress'd by the Priest's Power at Home, and threaten'd with a French Army from Abroad, in a Fright deliver'd his Crown to the Pope's Legate, and agreed to pay him Tribute. This Disgrace we owe to the Treason of the Priests of that Reign, and their Friendship with France: A Disgrace the most Infamous that ever happen'd to this Kingdom. And if to be a Friend to Bigots, is to be a Friend to England, here is a notorious Example of French Friendship 500 Years ago. The French King having been at a prodigious Expence, was disgusted at the Reconciliation

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of King *John* to the Pope, and resolv'd not to give over his Enterprize. The Church was Triumphant, and the King her Vassal; yet *Philip* continu'd his Design, and to accomplish it, made War upon the Earl of *Flanders*, with whom King *John* had enter'd into a League for their Mutual Defence. We see here what a Barrier the *Netherlands* are to us. *Philip*, notwithstanding he was admonish'd by the Pope not to make War upon *so humble and modest a Prince* as King *John*; for so his Legate stil'd him; persisted in his Resolution to Invade *England* with his Powerful Army; but durst not attempt it while the Earl of *Flanders* took his Part. For this Reason he began with the Earl, and order'd his Mighty Navy to Sail to *Damme*, where the *English* and *Flemish* Fleet attack'd and destroy'd it; which oblig'd him to return ingloriously to *France*. In the Year 1217, so long ago, were this Kingdom and the *Low-Countries*, a Mutual Defence to each other. Never was *England* in such Danger as it wou'd have been, had that Vast *French* Army Landed here. Never was *Flanders* in greater Peril than when it was now Invaded by it; yet the strict Alliance between the Two Princes sav'd both *England* and the *Netherlands*. This was Owing to the Amity of the *Flemings*. What we shou'd have ow'd to that of *France*, after we had been conquer'd, we may guess by the Happy State of the Subjects of the King now Reigning.

The next Year King *John*, and his Bishops and Barons, fell at Variance, and the *French* K. presently made his Advantage of it. Whatever refin'd Notions of Passive Obedience and Non-

Non-Resistance have been started since the Reformation, we find the Clergy, in the Dark Times of Papacy, more enlighten'd in those Matters than some of 'em appear to be since. The King intending to chastise his Barons for not following him into *France*, raises an Army; but *Stephen Langton*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, threaten'd to Excommunicate him, if he did not desist from any Acts of Violence against those Lords. A Synod being held some time after, that Prelate, instead of pacifying Matters, produces a Charter of King *Henry the First*, by which, says he, if they thought fit, they might assert their Ancient Liberties so long lost. I shall not enter into the Particulars of the War between King *John* and his Barons, only observe, that the Bishops and Clergy were generally on the Side of the latter. Archbishop *Langton* being, as *Echard* says, the Principal Adviser of it. And *Holinshed* writes thus: *The Prelates therefore of the Realm are repining at his Doings; for that they could not patiently suffer such Exactions, because of their Livings, and found means, through Practice, to persuade both the Kings of Scotland and France to Aid and Support them against him, by linking themselves together with sundry Noblemen of England.* Another Illustrious Example of French Friendship to our Church, for whose sake the King of *France* resolves once more in this Reign to send an Army to Her Assistance; notwithstanding he had the same Year 1215, concluded a Truce with King *John*. I have before taken notice of King *Philip's* Hatred to Us; and lest it may be objected, his Enmity was to the King, and not to the Kingdom, I shall repeat the
very

very Words of the Chronicler last mention'd. King Philip being glad of such an Occasion to invade the Realm, which he never lov'd, promis'd willingly that his Son should come unto the Aid of the Barons with all convenient speed. Accordingly He sends a Fleet, and Forces, to help them; which were follow'd by his Son the Dauphin Lewis, who betimes declar'd what was to be expected from his Friendship; and before he came to England, claim'd the Crown as his Right. There is something so very Particular in this Affair, that tho' it digresses a little from my Subject, I cannot help repeating it.

King John being the Pope's Vassal, a Nuncio came to France to dissuade Philip from his Intended Enterprize to gain the Kingdom of England: But Philip insisted that King John had forfeited his Right; and on what he grounded that Forfeiture, may be seen by his Speech to the Nuncio mention'd by *Matt. Westm. & Mat. Paris*, in which he charges him as an Enemy to his Royal Dignity, in giving his Kingdom to the Pope; which, says King Philip, he could not do without the consent of his Nobles; and therefore through his own Fault he was justly depriv'd of all Kingly Honour. For, continues he, The Kingdom of England never did belong to the Patrimony of St. Peter, nor at any time shall. Admit that he were Rightful King; yet neither He nor any other Prince may give away his Kingdom without the consent of his Barons, who are bound to defend it. It is a French King who talks after this Rate; and if what he says be True, what Right does King Charles the II^d of Spain's Will give the Duke of Anjou: But this French King was in hopes

hopes of getting a Kingdom for his Son, by asserting King *John* could not give his away; as the present *French* King hopes to get a Kingdom for his Grandson, by asserting K. *Charles* could give away his. Such being the Reasoning of the Kings of *France*, and of their Friends at all times.

Lewis coming to *England* with a great Army, promis'd the Barons that he would restore to all of them all good Laws, and abundance of all other Blessings. Which how he perform'd we shall soon see; and what a Friend he was to the very Lords who had invited him to their Assistance. There was in his Army a *French* Nobleman, call'd the *Viscount de Melun*, a Man of Honour, who being taken sick at *London*; generously sent to those Barons that were there for the security of the City, and declar'd to them, That he was extremely griev'd for the impending Ruin that was falling upon them, of which they had no Knowledge; particularly, that Prince *Lewis*, with sixteen Earls, and Barons of *France*, had sworn, that when he had conquer'd *England*, and was Crown'd, he would for ever banish all those who fought for Him against King *John*, as Traytors to their Realm, and destroy their Posterity. And that they might not doubt the Truth of it, he affirm'd it upon the Word of a dying Man; and as he hop'd for Salvation, that he was one of those who had taken that Oath; yet he desir'd them to be secret, and provide for their Safety as well as they could. From the Confession of this *Frenchman*, and the future Conduct of the Dauphin *Lewis*, let every good Britain learn the Security there is in the Profession of *French* Amity, even for those who would sacrifice their Country

try to it: The Dauphin will treat all such as joyn'd, as Traytors and Rebels, and destroy them Root and Branch.

King *John* dying of grief, his Son *Henry* the III^d succeeded him in 1216. and the dying Words of the Viscount *Melun* having made a strong Impression on the Minds of the *English*, many potent Barons deserted the Dauphin. *Robert Fitzwalter* claiming the Government of *Hertford-Castle*, Answer was made him by the *French*, that those Englishmen were never to be trusted who had been Traytors to their own Master. *French* Garisons were put into other Castles; The Country plunder'd by *Lewis's* Soldiers, and the Dauphin and his Followers render'd themselves so odious by their Avarice and Violence, that the *English* joyning heartily against them defeated them by Land and Sea, and oblig'd them to quit the Kingdom, after about Two Years War in it with various Success. The *French* King refus'd to ratify the Treaty of Peace made by the Dauphin: And the Dauphin himself, when King, invaded King *Henry's* Lands in *Poitou*, and reduc'd that Province entirely to his Obedience. This King *Lewis* dying, left a Minor, *Lewis* the IXth, and the *English* Council was for attempting something in *France* during the Minority; but the *French* Court knew how to divert the Storm: they gave *Hubert*, Grand Justiciary of *England*, and Prime Minister, 5000 Marks, and he so managed the Preparations, that the Enterprize was stop'd, and a Three Years Truce agreed upon between the Two Kingdoms in the Year 1231. Ten Years after, *Lewis* the IXth made War upon King

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Henry

Henry in *Aquitain*, which quickly ended in a Truce of Five Years. And if ever there was a Friendship between Two Kings of *England* and *France*, it may be apply'd to these Two, *Henry* the III^d and *Lewis* the IXth, who being both weak Princes, had not Spirit enough to Assert their Rights, or Resent Injuries; the Former was so complaisant that he gave up all his Pretences to *Normandy* and *Anjou* for a Sum of Money; and after that, *Lewis* and *Henry* were good Friends.

King *Henry*'s Son *Edward* the Ist, a Prince of great Courage, in the First Voyage he made to *France*, oblig'd *Philip*, Successor to *Lewis*, to Pay 10000 Pound Sterling Yearly at the Tower of *London*; and for this Tribute the Ancient Amity was restor'd: Till some time after King *Edward* was busy in his *Scotch* War; when the *French* King enter'd into a Confederacy with that King against him: But the King of *England* being an Active and Victorious Prince, the *French* made no considerable Attempt to disturb his Subjects on the Continent.

True it is; in the succeeding Reign, the Friendship between the Two Kings was so great, that *Edward* the II^d Marry'd the Daughter of *Philip* the Fair. And the Dissentions among the *English* were such that they had not time to look abroad; which made *Charles* the Ist of *France* demand the Dutchy of *Aquitain*, and would not be content till it was given to his Nephew Prince *Edward*, Son of *Edward* the II^d; his Sister, Mother to the Prince, being sent over to make that Composition.

If there seems to be any Face of Friendship, during the Reign of Two or Three weak Kings in *France* and *England*, the remaining Part of this Treatise will shew, that there has not for these 400 Years been one Prince on the Throne of *England*, who ever trusted to *French* Friendship or was not betray'd by it.

King *Edward* the III^d, at a Parliament held at *Northampton* in 1328. first mov'd about his Title to the Crown of *France*: For *Charles* K. of *France*, Brother to his Mother *Isabel*, being lately dead without Male Issue; notwithstanding that King *Edward* acknowledg'd the Salick Law, which excluded Females Inheritance; yet he maintain'd this Point: That the Sons of the Daughter having no such Imbecility of Sex, were not incapable; and that the Peers of *France* ought to prefer him who was a Male, and Grandchild to King *Philip*, before *Philip* of *Valois*, who they had lately advanc'd tho' he was but a Nephew.

Thus it appears very plain, that *Edward* the Third was the undoubted Heir of *Philip* the Fair, and that *Philip* of *Valois* detaining his Right to the Crown of *France*, was the Occasion of that Hereditary Friendship which is now said to be so happily Restor'd between the Two Nations. This Friendship shews itself for the next Four Hundred Years, in Treasons, Frauds, Ravages and Murders on the Side of the *French*; in Battels and Victories on that of the *English*. There was now a Spirit of Glory and Conquest in the *English*, which Animated them both in the Field and in the Cabinet: They were Govern'd by a

KING who led his Armies in Person, as well as directed his Councils; and *France* has never since dar'd to depend on our Amity, when we have had such a Prince on the Throne. There has not been a King or Queen from the Time of this Third *Edward*, to the Death of Queen *Elizabeth* of Glorious and Immortal Memory, who has look'd on the Court of *France* as their Friends, or ever treated them as such. As for the Reigns since that *Virgin* Queen, I am not so well acquainted with them; I never took the same Delight in Reading them; neither the Politicks nor Authors have any Thing in them to Charm one; and it shall be among the *Plantagenets* and *Tudors* that I shall search for Friends to *France* in the following Pages. It cannot be expected that I should give a particular Account of our Wars in *France*; my Design being only to form an Idea of the Amity that is to be reviv'd, and to see how far distant it is from Courting and Caressing Her. Let it be remember'd that our Cause is good; that *France* has nothing to warrant the Usurpation of the House of *Valois* but her own *Salick* Law, which she renounces as often as she has a Demand upon other Crowns and Scepters by doing it, and that all the Blood that's spilt in this Quarrel, is to assert the just Claim of the Kings of *England* to the *French* Monarchy. King *Edward* having Wars with the *Scots*, the *French* King, for from the Death of *Charles* the Vth, King of *France*, the Kings and Queens of *England* are in Truth the only Rightful Kings and Queens of that Kingdom, did not think his Friendship to King *Edward* oblig'd him

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not to receive *David King of Scotland*, who fled to him. He also Invaded *Aquitain*, while *King Edward* was busy in *Scotland*; for which, and to assert his Right to the Kingdom of *France*, He resolv'd to make that noble Prize the Object of his Views and Victories. To this End he first enter'd into a Confederacy with the *Dutch* and *Flemmings*, and to gain the Alliance of the Emperor. The *Flemmings* were such Old and True Friends to *England*, that tho' the Earl of *Flanders*, their Sovereign, was in the Interest of *France*, and rais'd an Army to Oppose their joyning with the *English*; yet being assisted by the latter, they disputed it in the Field; and beating the Earl's Army, enter'd into the Confederacy against *France* with *King Edward*. What is become of the True, Ancient Amity between *England* and the *Low-Countries*? We see the Inhabitants were 400 Years ago in Arms against their Sovereign to oblige him to let them Fight with us against the *French*: And why so? but because they knew Our's and Their Interests were Inseparable.

It is observable that *Philip de Valois* objected, besides the *Salick Law*, to *King Edward*, that he was a *Foreigner*, and therefore incapable of that Crown. How have the *French* argu'd for the Contrary; as in the Case of *Philip of Anjou*? *King Edward* was in the same Relation to the Crown of *France*, as the Dauphin, *Philip's* Father, to that of *Spain*: Yet his being a *Foreigner* is an Objection against him, but none against the Duke of *Anjou*; not so much related to the *Spanish Monarchy* as *King Edward* was to the *French*. My Design not being

ing to write the History of *England*, but of the *English* Amity with the *French*, I shall take no Notice of the Glorious Wars of King *Edward*, and his Son the *Black Prince*. I shall pass over the Victories of *Cressy* and *Poitiers*, and the Triumphant Entry of *Edward* the *Black Prince* into *London*, with his Prisoner, *John* the *French* King; for it will not be pretended the Two Nations were then at the Height of their Friendship. This War ended in a Treaty, by which the Provinces of *Guyenne*, with the Counties of *Xaintoigne*, *Poitou*, *Peregor*, *Limosin*, *Quercie*, *Angoulesme*, *Rovergne*, &c. were to be left to King *Edward*; who, in Consideration of it, was to quit his Claim to the Crown of *France*, to the Dutchy of *Normandy*, the Counties of *Touraine*, *Anjou* and *Mayne*.

Seven Years after this Peace was concluded, *Charles*, surnam'd the *Wise*, King of *France*, by the Death of his Father King *John*, began to infringe it by sinister Practices, not daring openly to break it. Of which read the following Account, as giv'n by Mr. *Echard*. “ Nor did he neglect in Time to find
“ out proper Colours to paint over his Col-
“ lusions and Contrivances for saving his
“ Honour; insomuch that when it came to
“ a Publick Scrutiny, the Loss was plainly
“ upon King *Edward*'s Side, and the Cause
“ of the Breach at least render'd Doubtful.
“ His Practices were notwithstanding Palpa-
“ ble; and it must be acknowledg'd, that
“ King *Edward* relying too much upon the
“ Rules of Honour and Magnanimity, did
“ not reap the just Effects of such mighty
“ Victo-

“ Victories ; nor of a Peace which was so
 “ solemnly ratify’d, that in the World’s Opi-
 “ nion it could not on one side be infring’d
 “ without a manifest Invasion of all Obliga-
 “ tions Divine and Human. The Prince
 “ of *Wales*, by Letters advertiz’d his Father
 “ not to trust to any specious Overtures of
 “ Amity and Alliance made by the *French*,
 “ because he found that they had entertain’d
 “ secret Practices in every Place against him.
 It is remarkable, that the *English* Heroes, jea-
 lous of the Honour of the Nation, have in
 all Times been Enemies to *France*, and that
 the Ancient Amity, if there was any between
 the Two Nations, was always carry’d on by
 a few, for private Ends, contrary to the Pub-
 lick Good : It was the same now ; Prince *Ed-
 ward*’s Advice was suspected to come from a
 Thirst of Glory. The Prince, says the above-
 mention’d Author, *was then judg’d to speak out
 of a restless Delight after War, and therefore pre-
 vail’d not, tho’ the Effects soon discover’d that his
 Words were unquestionably true.* King *Charles* us’d
 all Means to abuse King *Edward*’s Credulity,
 till he had advanc’d as far as Diffimulation
 could carry him, and then in full opposition
 to the Tenor of the Treaty demanded Ho-
 mage for *Guyenne* ; and requir’d the Black
 Prince, Governor of the *English* Dominions
 in *France*, to appear at *Paris*, and answer Com-
 plaints made against his Government. He al-
 so seiz’d *Pontbieu* and several Parts of *Guyenne*,
 pretending King *Edward* had not renounc’d
France in the manner the Treaty specify’d ;
 upon this Breach of the Peace, the King of
England reassum’d his Claim, and the *Ancient*
Amity

Amity was confirm'd in a New and Bloody War. The Council of King Edward began now to suffer for want of the Black Prince, who was dead; and by the Age of the King, whose Mind seem'd to have lost more of its Vigor than his Body. The first fatal Instance of the Change of Methods for the worse, was his falling out with the *Netherlanders*, whom it is true the Earl of *Hereford* defeated at Sea; but it so weaken'd the *English* Maritime Power, that the Earl of *Pembroke* being sent to the Relief of *Rochel* with a Fleet of Ships, was routed, and after that the *English* Affairs declin'd every where in *France*: The King being in the 50th Year of his Reign. The Man who delighted in War, the Black Prince, who had Routed the *French* at *Cressy* and *Poitiers*, was no more; and the *English* Spirit which had indeed delighted in Victory, gave way to the rising Fortune of our good old Friends the *French*, who not only took from us what they had given up by Treaty to King Edward in *France*, but insulted our Coasts and burnt *Rye*. The Gentlemen who did not delight in War, had it seems the whole Management of Affairs, there being no Fleet ready to take the Seas, so the *French* Landed on the Isle of *Wight*, and took all the Towns but *Carisbrook*; after which they Landed in other Places, and burnt *Hastings*, *Portsmouth*, *Dartmouth*, and *Plymouth*. These pacifick Counsellors, in the succeeding Reign, that of *Richard* the II^d, trusted so much to the Friendship of *France*, that Mr. Echard tells us, *England* had neither a Fleet to defend it by Sea, nor Number of Troops to oppose the Enemy by Land; nor were the Civil Affairs at
this

this time much better manag'd, &c. This being a very weak Reign, and few People delighting after War, living in it, we were more frequently thus visited by our Old Friends. They sent a Powerful Army into *Scotland*, and made mighty Preparations to invade *England*. The Account given of this intended Invasion will represent their Friendship to us better than any Arguments of Modern Writers to prove it, and shew what we may expect from the Effects of it, in the Reign of such a Prince; as was King *Richard*, and the Ministry of Evil and corrupt Counsellors, as his were. *England* was this Summer, 1586. says the Historian, under frequent Alarms, and great Consternation, from the formidable Preparations of the French King, who gather'd a vast Navy and a prodigious Army at *Sluis* for that Design: And the better to secure the Soldiers at their first Landing, the French had fram'd a wonderful Wooden Wall, Three Miles in Compass, no less than 20 Foot high, with a great Number of Turrets, with which they were to have suddenly enclosed their Camp; but Providence which had sav'd France in the last Reign seem'd to have sav'd England in this: For the Wind kept contrary from the Middle of August to the Middle of November. All agree, that the Kingdom had never a greater Escape and Deliverance, as well for the want of its best Soldiers, as for many other Reasons; and we are assur'd, that the World never saw a greater and more glorious Fleet together, for it consisted of near 1300 Sail of Ships of all Sorts; and as for Land-Forces, besides 15 Dukes, 26 Earls, and 200 Barons, there were 100000 Soldiers: All our good old Friends: But the Winds were much more so; a Tempest drove back and disabled

abled their Fleet after they put to Sea ; and the Charge of this unhappy Design so impoverish'd the *French* King that he gave it over afterwards. What Ministers we had then in *England* to encourage the Enemy to such an Enterprize, may be seen by a bold Message of the Parliament to the King : *That the Chancellor and Treasurer ought to be remov'd from their Offices, because they were not for the Advantage of Himself and Kingdom.* For my Part I am no Judge of such high Things as the Prerogative ; and when I have heard it said, that Parliaments never offer'd to advise the Crown, as to keeping or removing its Servants, I have only answer'd that Instances might be given of it ; and this is one. But then the King's Reply to this Message, gives a terrible Discouragement to such officious and intruding Counsels ; for the Historian goes on, *At which the King being highly offended, commanded to mention no such Matter, but immediately proceed to the Business for which they were summon'd ; declaring that he would not for their sakes remove the meanest Skul-lion-Boy in his Kitchen.* However the Lords and Commons resolv'd, That they neither could or would proceed in any Business of Parliament, or dispatch the least Article, till the King came in Person among them, and remov'd the Chancellor from his Office. The Enormities of his Ministry not being my Subject I must leave them to another Opportunity. It is no wonder, our good Friends the *French* should be so willing to visit us, when our King said freely, *He would rather call in his Cousin of France to assist him, nay rather submit himself to him, than do what his Parliament desir'd of him.* And indeed,

not

not long after, this King of Ours Marry'd the French King's Daughter, tho' but 7 or 8 Years Old ; and made a Truce with him for Thirty Years. The Duke of Gloucester, the King's Uncle, a true Lover of his Country, took the Liberty to say, *That it had been more proper to recover by Arms what the King's Father and Grandfather had lost in France, than to enter into new Alliances with that Crown, which had always better Success in Treaties than Wars with England.* It is 316 Years ago since the Duke of Gloucester said, That the French were always too hard for us in Treaties ; and this good Man, by his Nephew King Richard's Order, was Murther'd at Calais, for these and other Free Speeches. Notwithstanding the Truce, our Friends the French could not resist so fair a Temptation, as that of our ill Government of England : *On the Seas, says Echard, the Merchants Ships were frequently surpriz'd by the French, and the King's Hereditary Dominions in France reduc'd into narrower Compass, and many strong Places lost by Negligence, or sold by Treachery.*

Three Years after the Truce and Marriage, King Richard being depos'd for his Male-Administration ; and Henry the IVth King ; tho' the Latter sent back the young Maiden Queen Isabella, Wife to the Former, in a Friendly Manner, and was not hasty in breaking with France, being disturb'd with Conspiracies against himself at home ; yet our Old Friends insulted our Coasts, burnt Plymouth, attempted Dartmouth, Landed on the Isle of Wight, plunder'd it ; and the Duke of Orleans to shew how heartily he lov'd King Henry, sent him a Challenge. This Duke quarrelling with

the Duke of *Burgundy*, occasion'd the Rise of Two Mighty Factions in *France*, whose Divisions ended in the Ruin and Conquest of the Country by the *English*. For, as our good Old Friends have upon all Occasions been ready to take hold of any Opportunity to side with a Faction in *England*, and to Invade us, so have we upon all Occasions been as ready to do them the same Kindness, as appears more evidently in the next Reign, that of

Henry the Vth, who prosecuted the Agreement his Father had enter'd into with the D. of *Burgundy*, and by the Assistance of the *Burgundian*-Faction made himself Master of almost all the Kingdom ; of which his Son *Henry* the VIth was crown'd King. No doubt, but during these Wars, which lasted above Thirty Years, the Two Nations were the best Friends in the World. We find in our Histories, what good Will the Assertors of the Divine Hereditary Indefeasible Right, have always born to *France* ; for when King *Henry* began his first Enterprize against that Kingdom, the Earl of *Cambridge*, *Henry* *Scroop*, Lord Treasurer, and Sir *Thomas* *Gray* a Privy-Counsellor, enter'd into a Conspiracy against King *Henry*, in favour of *France*, from whence they receiv'd a Million of Gold : Their Pretence was to set up *Edmund* Earl of *March*, as true Heir by Descent to the Crown, in defiance of *Henry* of *Lancaster*, as an Usurper : but the Conspiracies were detected, and the Conspirators executed. The Treasurer being, says my Historian, put to the most infamous Punishment of Hanging, Drawing, and Quartering. I shall not enter into the Detail of the many glorious Victories

Victories obtain'd by the *English* over the
French in these Two Reigns, nor of their Treas-
 sons and Frauds to put a stop to them: Nor
 shall I go about to prove that the Treaty of
Tours, which made the Two Nations good
 Friends, was the Ruin of the Glory of *Eng-
 land* Abroad, and of its Peace at Home. I find
 that done fully in a Treatise call'd *The Life and
 Reign of Henry the VIth*, to which I refer the
 Reader; but shall proceed with the History
 of the Ancient Amity between the Two Na-
 tions after that Time. In the Year 1445, Four
 Years after the Famous Treaty of *Tours*, the
French, during the Distractions in *England*,
 surpriz'd all *Normandy*; and Four Years after
 that, Our Dear Friends making use of the
 same Divisions, which ow'd their Rise to our
 Friendship with them in the Treaty of *Tours*,
 drove us out of *Aquitain* too after 300 Years
 Possession. True it is, they were so kind,
 that they did not Invade us during those
 Cruel Civil Wars between the Houses of
Lancaster and *York*; but they left the Drudge-
 ry of Slaughter to our selves; and finding we
 were so eager in cutting one another's Throats,
 were so friendly as not to disturb us once; the
 True Reason being their Fear of the Two
 Warlike Parties joyning against a Common
 Invader; and I believe there was then Ho-
 nour enough in *England* to have wrought that
 Effect upon a *French* Invasion. There cou'd
 not in those Days a Faction be found, who
 wou'd have joyn'd with the *French* to destroy
 their Liberties; and as much as the Two
 Contending Parties hated each Other, they
 hated the *French* still more.

King

King *Edward* the IVth, as soon as he had done his Business at Home, thought of Affairs Abroad; and the Injuries this Nation had receiv'd from *France*, came into his Head. To shew how general the Enmity of the *English* was to the *French*, he rather chose to raise Money by a *Benevolence*, than by Subsidies in Parliament, knowing how Unanimous his Subjects were in their Resentments against the Common Enemy; and that a War with *France* wou'd be the best way to reconcile them. It is recorded that an Old Widow contributed *Forty Pounds* on this Occasion; so effectual was this Voluntary Tax when *France* was to be Invaded. He rais'd a Mighty Army, and pass'd over to *Calais*: But whether it was that King *Edward* was never hearty in this Expedition, and undertook it only to divert the Minds of his Subjects from being employ'd about his Title to the Crown, and the means he us'd to acquire it: Whether it was that the Duke of *Burgundy*, Sovereign of the *Netherlands*, fail'd him, or that his Ministers were brib'd: Certain is, he came ingloriously back, being bought off with Money. Thus was the *Ancient Friendship* restor'd, and an Interview appointed between *Edward* the IV. and *Lewis* the XI. which is particularly describ'd by *Comines*. That King *Edward's* Ministers were for Restoring this Ancient Amity, who can doubt, who ever read that excellent Historian? And we shall, by his Account of the Matter, see what Methods are the surest for *France* to gain her Ends by, when her Arms are ineffectual. 'Tis at large in the IXth Chapter of the IVth Book.

After

After which, says he, the King of England should return into his own Country upon the Receipt of 720000 Crowns, and that the Lord Hastings, and Sir John Cheyney, Master of the Horse, should be left as Hostages till his Arrival in England; and last of all a Pension of 16000 Crowns a Year was promis'd to the Privy-Counsellors of the King of England, viz. to the Lord Hastings 2000, to the Chancellor 2000, and the rest to the Master of the Horse, the Lord Howard, Mr. St. Leger, Sir Thomas Montgomery and Others; besides a great deal of ready Money, and Plate, that was distributed among the rest of the King of England's Retinue. Echard tells us, that the King's own Brother, the scrupulous Duke of Gloucester, return'd not home without a large Present, both of Plate and Horses. The Affection of the Lords was generally bought up according to the ordinary Course in Markets; as they were worth more in King Edward's Estimation, so was their Price rais'd. If it is for the Credit of this King and his Ministers to have thus restor'd the old Friendship. If his Lords who sold their Affection to Lewis, when an English Army was ready to enter France, deserve to be remembred with Honour, then and only then will Her Friends in England deserve the Name of good Englishmen. Other Articles of the Pecuniary Treaty with Lewis the XI. was, That he should Marry the Dauphin to Elizabeth King Edward's Daughter; and how he perform'd that Article, on which King Edward's Heart was set, Our Historian tell us; In these Times, says Echard, Ambassadors were frequently sent from England to France, and from France to England, &c. about the Performance of the Treaty, particularly

larly with respect to the Marriage. My Author proceeds, *Edward was easy to believe, and Lewis made Advantage of his Credulity, and brought about his Purposes of Marrying his Son another Way, which if he had carry'd more openly he could not have effected them, &c.* so that they are not much mistaken who say, that the English have generally won more Honour by Fighting them by Treaties. King Edward would not be persuaded that Lewis intended to play him foul; He would never suffer that String to be touch'd in his Presence, continues the Historian, but ever believ'd that the French design'd Honourably: He would not so much as entertain a Suspicion against the French King, and therefore suffer'd him to incroach upon those Parts of Picardy that joyn'd to Calais.

The next King, Edward the Vth, being a Child his Friendship is not worth minding, and hardly that of Richard the III^d, his Uncle and Murderer, who sending an Ambassador to Lewis, the above-mention'd Historian writes, *the French King would not afford him Audience, judging his Friendship unworthy of an Human Correspondence.*

Henry the VII. having obtain'd the Possession of the Crown after the Death of the Usurper Richard, the French King who had a Design upon the Dutchy of Bretagne, for that Duke's siding with the Duke of Orleance, sent an Embassy to King Henry before he invaded that Dutchy, knowing the Duke had been a very good Friend to the King when Earl of Richmond. His Ambassadors declaring, their Master would put himself into King Henry's Hands, and make him Arbitrator of the Peace. King Henry accordingly sent Ambassadors to
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compose the Differences between his Friend the Duke of Bretagne, and the French King. But during, this Intercourse, says my Author, the French King invaded Bretagne with a great Force, and laid close Siege to Nantz; and as one well vers'd in the worst kind of Policy, the more he urg'd the Prosecution of the War, he at the same time did more urge the Solicitation of the Peace. When Henry propos'd a War to his Parliament, they granted him a Benevolence to carry it on: The Kings of England in those Times finding the People always so eager for a French War, that they got more by this voluntary Contribution than by a formal Subsidy. With the Army thus rais'd, King Henry besieg'd Bulloigne, and the French King finding there was no hope of relieving it, had recourse to the old Artifices of France, and clapp'd up a Peace, which was procur'd by Money to the King and his Ministers. The French King also, says Echard, assign'd great Pensions, and rich Gifts, for the present, to all King Henry's principal Counsellors and Ministers, which whether the King permitted, to save his own Purse, or to communicate to them the Envy of this Treaty, was diversly interpreted. Thus was the Ancient Amity restor'd. Notwithstanding that the French King refus'd to deliver the Impostor Perkin Warbeck into his Hands. This Perkin had been invited into France out of Ireland by the French King, as soon as he heard of King Henry's Preparation for War, he acknowledg'd his Title to the Crown, furnish'd him with Money, Servants, and Guards; and his Court to follow his Example, shew'd him the like Respect, till the approach of an English Army

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my so frighten'd them, that the Impostor was sent packing. As long as the French King continu'd the Tribute he was to pay to King Henry, there was no War between them : But his Son, Henry the VIIIth, a Prince of a Martial Genius, had not Reign'd Four Years before he demanded his Patrimonial Inheritance, Normandy, Guyenne, Anjou, Mayne, &c. And as impracticable as it has been thought, to carry on a War against France on the Side of Spain, an Army was sent thither under the Marquess of Dorset, who Landed on the Coasts of Biscay, and was design'd to invade France on that Side. This War ended as the other had done lately, and France paying a Million of Crowns, Friendship was again restor'd ; till Francis the Ist breaking his Oath, and sending the Duke of Albany, a Scotch Exile, to that Kingdom, to raise Troubles again there and in England ; the War was renew'd, and lasted till Francis was taken Prisoner by Charles the Vth Emperor of Germany, when King Henry very wisely joyn'd with the French to preserve the Balance of Power, which was threaten'd by the Ambition and Successes of Charles ; and the Reason of it is given justly by a Modern Historian, speaking of the Intimacy and Friendship between the Emperor and King Henry growing remiss, *It was the less to be wonder'd at, says he, that the Emperor began to take such State upon him, since a Richer Booty than that of Francis fell into his Hands ; that is, the Empire of Peru, where the Mines of Potosi, and many others, were first discover'd.* This vast Acquisition of Riches, and the Union of the then powerful Kingdoms of

of *Spain*, with the Empire, and the Seventeen Provinces of the *Low-Countries*, did indeed dispose King *Henry* to keep Friends with *Francois* the Ist, Sixteen Years : Add to this his Broils with the Pope, his Changes in Religion, and his Engagements with the *French* King to do the same ; but the Latter failing in his Promise, King *Henry* assign'd it as one of the Causes of the next War with *France* ; which had not been so long deferr'd, if *Francois* the Ist had not been as much embroil'd as Himself, and Necessity oblig'd the Two Nations to keep Friends ; a Necessity that has from that time ceas'd, and was never pretended to when good Policy prevail'd. King *Henry* being desirous not to leave his young Son involv'd in a Foreign War, concluded a Peace with *France*, not long before his Death. But the *French* King, to improve the Comotions rais'd in *England*, about Religion, in King *Edward* the VIth's Minority, attack'd *Bulloigne*, tho' he had the Day before he march'd to besiege it, assur'd the *English* Ambassador, On the Faith of a Gentleman he would not begin a War without first giving warning. But many Princes, says *Echard*, reckon it a Part of their Prerogative to be exempted from such Obligations as bind poor Subjects. Factions arising in the *English* Court, the *Scots* took Arms in Favour of the Enemies to this Crown, and the *French* breaking their Treaty, the *English* were forc'd to part with *Bulloigne* for 500000 Crowns.

In the next Reign, that of Queen *Mary*, Our good Friends took from Us *Calais*, after above 200 Years Possession, and all that remain'd to us of the *French* Conquests. They

provok'd the Queen to joyn with King *Philip*, her Husband, by the kind Acceptation they gave to all *English* Fugitives, whom it was believ'd they secretly supply'd, and encourag'd them to embroil Her Affairs.

When Queen *Elizabeth* came to the Crown, the Protestant Religion began to get Ground in *France*; and She resolving to establish it in *England*, had no View with respect to that Kingdom but to support its Friends there, which were the only True Friends to *England* that ever *France* produc'd since the Conquest. *France* was under a Minority, and there was no cause to fear any Disturbance from that Government, which being Popish, had enough to do to carry on their Design against the Reformation, whose Heads were of the Prime Nobility, and not inconsiderable in Number. However, Queen *Elizabeth* did not entirely give over Her Pretences to *Calais*, till the *French* King paid her 620000 Crowns, nor then without preserving a latent Claim. During her Time, the *French* contented themselves to shew their Amity to *England* by assisting the *Scotts*, and the *English* return'd their Civility by doing the same to the King of *Navarre*, and the Protestant Lords in *France*. And when *Henry* the IVth was oppos'd by the *League*, this Queen was a True Friend and Confederate to him, looking on the Protestant-Interest of *Christendom*, to be concern'd in the Preservation of that of *France*.

What

What Sentiments we have had of it since, will appear in the Sequel of the *English History*, from the Death of Queen *Elizabeth*, which I leave to Others to examine; contenting my self with having run through the Reigns of all Our Kings and Queens since the *Norman Invasion*, to seek for that *Amity* which some wou'd pretend to be restor'd. These Politicians do not know or consider, that Junctures may oblige Nations not to War, which however never will, nor ever shou'd be *Friends*. And because we have Peace with *France*, it is no Argument that we must love them, and be fonder of them than of those, whose Interest obliges them to preserve this Amity with us Inviolable.

There is one Thing which alone wou'd make me hate the *French* Eternally, and that is their Affection for the *Pretender*. While he lives among 'em, and lays open his Claim to the Crown, which God has given to our Gracious Sovereign; while he is own'd by them to be any Thing better than a *Pretender*; let him Reside at *Paris*, or on the Mountains of *Dauphine*, it is all one to me; I am sure he is not kept in any Part of *France* for any good purpose. This present King *Lewis* the XIVth made no Scruple to Banish Her Majesty's Loyal Unkle and Father from his Dominions, at the Request of an *Usurper*. And can he pretend Friendship to Our Sovereign and her Subjects, while he Entertains an Impostor within his Dominions? What View can he have by it, but to keep up a *Trayterous* Faction in this Kingdom, His True Friends, Enemies

mies to Our Queen and Government. These I hope, are the only Friends to France. To these the pretended *Ancient Amity* is only Restor'd; And let France make the best of it. They have deceiv'd Her these Four and Twenty Years, and will surely at last deceive Her, if She has founded any Design against us on so sandy a Foundation as their Friendship. For whether it be War or Peace, She will find that all good Britains will be always Friends to their Country; and then in what Disposition they must be with Respect to Her, let any honest *Englishman* judge.

F I N I S.